

TOWN OF TIVERTON

BUDGET COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2015

7:00 PM

TIVERTON TOWN HALL

343 HIGHLAND ROAD

TIVERTON, RI 02878

MINUTES

Meeting called to order 7:10 PM

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call: Present: Deb Janick, John Souza, Donna Cook, Madeline O'Dell, Nancy Driggs, Josh Mello, Laura Epke, Alex Cote, Cecil Leonard, Louise Durfee, Joe Bento

Video taping by Andrew Rys for airing on Channel 18 during week.

1. Presentation of the following proposed 2016 budgets:

Fire Dept: by Fire Robert Lloyd with Town Administrator Matthew Wojcik

Chief Lloyd reports that they are still working on salary figures which is reason there is discrepancy between Chief proposed budget and TA proposed budget. Error in holiday pay due to per contract, 4 special holidays with special pay. Contract continues to be negotiated; there is a plan in place to decrease overtime which is over budget already for this fiscal year. Discussion on overtime issues with reports that TC/TA and Fire Chief are under discussions at this time to correct over time issue. In past have used fire prevention

revenue for new vehicle. Joe Bento requests 5 year revenues from Fire inspections. Provisional vote as outlined below.

Harbor and Coastal Mgmt Commission: Harbor Master

Review of proposal dated 2/17/15 of Harbor Master; Provisional vote as outlined below.

Pensions (police, Municipal, AFSCME): Discussion that we have \$600 thousand to make up from 2015 Petitioner budget which pulled that amount from the reserves. We have one time chance to fix this issue.

TA recommends that we fund \$700 thousand vs \$800 thousand funded 2015 from Police Pension. How do we get there? If taken from schools, refinancing of bonds might save \$200 thousand. L Durfee suggests we could possibly save approximately \$300 thousand from Police Pensions to get us closer to that \$600 thousand deficit. Review of Actuarial report (page 4): State wants minimum 60% funded, Tiverton currently at 63.2%. 65% is considered healthy. If we want to decrease amount we add into fund, potential savings this year, however, does it cause us to have to increase funding another year? State recommended contribution is \$536 thousand from town; TA reports need to have \$700 thousand total; Employer contribution \$536 thousand approximately; and Employee contribution \$176 thousand approximately, all plus interest. State plan for funding was agreed upon and would need to go to State if any changes are proposed. Need resolution from TC that town will put in \$700 thousand.

2. Discussion of recommendation for a true Capital Fund be in place in order to make capital purchases with cash to recognize savings (lower purchase prices and elimination of interest payments on loans); L Durfee recommends that the BC add a Referendum to FTR to set aside a percentage of funds for town wide capital fund. D Perry recommends investigate how area towns manage funding of capital items.

3. L Epke requests from TA information on all revenues, fees, fines collected. How close are we to 4%. Information is needed on refinancing to appreciate current standing on savings. TA reports new tower lease is pending/awaiting Mr Teitz to enter estimates.

Discussion of previous and current 2016 Budget Presentations including, but not limited to: reviewing, modifying, and taking provisional votes to be discussed further when preparing the Budget Committee recommendations for the FTR. Provisional votes taken as follows to accept the departmental totals as recommended by the Town Administrator/Town Council unless otherwise noted:

DEPT	Motion
Made/Seconded	VOTE
Fire Dept (operating total)	L Epke/L Durfee
\$363,635	9-1-1

Oppose: Cook

Abstain: Bento

Harbor Master	L Epke/J Bento
\$21,110	11-0-0
Municipal pensions	L Epke/L Durfee
\$439,198	11-0-0
Police Gen Contract/Mandated exp total	L Durfee/M O'dell
\$127,400	11-0-0
Police Salary total	L Durfee/D Janick
\$2,692,835	11-0-0

4. Old Business:

Police Salaries: Item continued from 2/19/15 meeting due to clarification of line item changes: M Wojcik clarifies changes (Line item 6928 is \$45,000; Line item 5115 is \$48,516) and provisional vote as above.

Student Resource Officer (SRO): SC Chairperson, Sally Black clarifies (as per request at 2/19/15 meeting) amount financed from school budget is \$54,432 .

Format of Budget Committee final recommendations: Nancy Mello did obtain information from the other towns in RI who have FTR (Charlestown, Hopkinton, West Warwick); All towns have line items, some more detailed than others. All have info in some format on their website. Nancy Driggs volunteers to put together the excel docket sheets for this presentation to tax payers. Laura Epke and Nancy Mello will email their templates and info to Nancy Driggs for her to

complete.

5. New Business:

Upcoming Budget Presentations:

a. Mar 5, 2015: Department of Public Works: Capital; Salaries: Operating Expenses

Landfill Acct and Landfill Committee: Storm Water Management II; On site Wastewater Mgmt; Waste Water Mgmt Facilities Plan Loan; Rubbish/Recycling Collection; Building Maintenance

b. Mar 12, 2015: Library Services; Senior Center; Parks and Recreation

Site visits:

a. Feb 28, 2015: Public Works Site Visit at 9 am

b. March 7, 2015: New Library and Senior Center starting at 9 am

6. Approval of minutes from Feb 19, 2015 meeting: Motion to accept: L Epke; 2nd by L Durfee; Vote: 7-0-4; (abstain: A Cote, C Leonard, L Durfee, J Bento who were absent 2/19/15 meeting)

7. Adjourn approximately 9 pm

Recorded and submitted by Deborah G Janick, Secretary